

Art Unit: 1631

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kenneth Kohn on 4 June 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend claim <sup>21</sup>~~1~~ to read as follows:

--A method of detecting informative markers of early stage cancer by:

differentially biopanning sera obtained from normal individuals and patients with early stage cancer against epitope-expressing phage display libraries;

obtaining epitope bearing clones displaying reactivity to antibodies present in sera of patients with early stage cancer but not in sera of normal individuals, including the step of identifying and excluding the sera of normal individuals that react strongly but nonspecifically to epitope bearing clones, wherein the step of excluding the sera of normal individuals which react strongly but nonspecifically to epitope bearing clones further includes the step of excluding sera which show a unimodal pattern of dual fluorescence reaction with epitope bearing clones, where a first color indicates reaction with human immunoglobulin and a second color indicates reaction to phage capsid proteins;

identifying all epitopes that are specific to patients with early stage cancer as informative markers of early stage cancer; and

M.T.  
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